

7-20-1856

Letter to John Butler, Eliza (Smith) Butler and Matilda Smith from Isaac Smith and Margaret Smith

Isaac Smith

Margaret Smith

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you may stop the Atlas.

you wanted me to write whether you had wrote
any thing in regard to that carpet that I left
we have bin looking over your letters we couldnt
find any thing concerning it, all I know about
it is that I left it at Jimmies & Bogges
store for sale, do what you think right in
all my concerns back there, and I will be satis-
fied, I want you to pay yourself well for all
your trouble, write soon ~~to~~ we remain your
Brother & Sister until death

Isaac & M. Smith

Dear Brother and Sisters my mind is so confused
I do not know whether I can write any or not I reckon
you have heard the painful news before this time
John if I could see you I could talk a great deal
about our dear beloved Father he suffered a great deal
but bore it very patient he did not complain at anything
done he looked so pretty and sweet and every word he said
done our very souls good he talked a great deal about
heaven and future happiness I never heard any one talk
so pretty as he did he said he wanted us all to live to
good Christians the children all staid nearly all the
time he was sick he wanted us all to stay with him all
the time the Boys was very attentive and done every thing
they could he said he did not know what he could say
about them poor boys in Ills he was four or five days he
could not talk above a whisper Mother takes his death very
hard you must write to her often and try to console her all
you can Father said he wanted us to take good care of her
we intend to do so but we cant make up her loss she says she
is ruined she has visited around amongst the children ever since

July the 20th 1856

Dear Brother & Sisters

A few weeks ago
we had it to say that our numerous connection
in Oregon had not had a serious case of sick-
ness or a death since we had him here,
but we now know of a truth that people
can die here as well as other places, I suppose
you will hear of the death of your Father
before this reaches you, he died on the 24th of
June between eleven ~~and~~ twelve o'clock P.M.
just two weeks from the time he was taken,
the Doctors called his sickness the typhoid
fever, he complained mostly of his side that
his ribs hurt a great deal a year before, which
I suppose you have heard of before. his sick-
ness was very lingering he suffered a good deal
though not as severe as some I have saw, he ap-
peared to be about half asleep the most of
the time but when roused up he was in
his right mind to the last. he took his
sickness very patient he had no hopes of live-
ing from the time he was first taken.
your Mother takes his death quite hard it is
a very serious thing to see old folks unite
the parting hand, that had lived together
forty five years in harmony.

we had three Doctors to see him the first was
a kind of a cold water Doc he gave some medicine
the 2^d was a german botanic Doc the 3^d was
a Hlopather Doc these medicines operated just
as they wanted it to but did not help him
the least, I think he brought his sickness
on by fatigue & exposure he had undertaken
to fence him a piece of ground on his place
he worked harder than he was able he said
himself that was the cause of his sick-
ness and if he got well he wold not work
hard any more, his promise was too late he
has gone where no traveler returns,
now imagin to your selves we have a good
loving & benevolent Parient, last remains rests
it is just on the hill above Temple Eljah by
the side of Steven White & Jo Davidson in full
view of a good many of the connection and
of the Willamette where course is marked
out by the Majestic Fir and ~~at~~ the foot
of Mount Hood that always dressed in
white and the Highest Mountain in North
America I say at the foot although over one
hundred Miles looks to be right close by
if the dead was conscious and cold I speak I think
they wold say this is a pleasant resting place
but this is not the case it makes no differ-
ence to them where they are whether in
Oregon or Illinois in the Ocean waves or

the deserts of Africa, I shall have to drop this
subject I have said more than I intended but
we all feel like we had lost a great Friend
he appeared to take the greatest of interest in all
of our concerns as much so as if we had him mi-
nors, in fact his whole course since he was
here was more mild than it yause to be there
is no man here that had made more and better
friends than he had such a person will be
long remembered.

This leaves us all well, the connection are well
as far as I know. I was quite sick lately I was
confined about a week it was some kind of fever,
I received two letters from you last week it
was quite a feast, it has been nearly a year &
a half since I received one before, I was glad
to hear you was all well and doing well
I wold like to see you all but in as much
as we cant let us agree to write oftener wh-
at say you, I think we have a good school
this summer the more largest all go they
appear to learn very well, the excitement about
the Indians are pretty well over but the war
still continues I think it will close some
time this summer.
you wanted me to write whether I wanted
both of the Monmouth papers or not,
I wold like to hear both sides of your
politics till after the Presidential election

Butler Family Letters

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Date: July 20, 1856

Transcription:

July the 20th 1856

Dear Brother & Sisters

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